WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857 OCT.-NOV. 1984

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

LOG HOUSE QUESTION TO BE PRESENTED TO MEMBERS

Readers may recall that in February 1983 Society members voted to investigate the possible restoration of the log cabin at Cobblestone Farm.

A committee has been studying the project and Architects Four, a local firm, specializing in restoration work, submitted a quotation of $1,260 for a restoration study and $1,200 for preparing actual plans or $2,350 for both if ordered together.

The Board voted at the September meeting to order the study and plan. It was recognized after the meeting that the Board did not have authority to act as it had been pledged to bring any action to members for a vote.

The matter is to be discussed at the October 10 board meeting at 4 p.m. at the American Legion and brought to the membership for a vote at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 14, in the Zonta Room at the Ann Arbor "Y".

The 1836 log house, originally in Augusta township, was taken down and re-erected at Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard Road, a few years ago. It is owned by the City of Ann Arbor.

TOWLER, DARWIN NAMED WCHS DIRECTORS

Terry Towler of Ypsilanti and Bill Darwin of the Waterloo-Chelsea area have been appointed to the vacancies on the WCHS Board of Directors by President Wystan Stevens.

Towler will fill out the term of Susan Lande who has resigned. Darwin will become director-at-large replacing Susan Gangwere who has moved to Bethleham, Pennsylvania. Both terms expire in June 1986.

Stevens described Towler as a "rather fanatical collector of anything having to do with history of Ypsilanti." Darwin has been active in the antiques business and his father, Leroy, is known for stained glass work and classes.

BOOKS, PAPERS GIVEN

"A History of St. Thomas Parish," by Louis Doll and a packet of 1920's ephemera were presented to the Society recently, Galen Wilson, collections chairman, reports.

Mrs. Clifford (Jane) Otts of Bradenton, Florida, gave the book. Mrs. Florence Vandermast of Alhambra, Califonia, sent the papers which include letterhead of the Ypsi-Ann Land Company. Mrs. Vandermast worked for the local real estate board in the 1920's when her husband was in law school in Ann Arbor.

SHOW FEATURES WOMEN'S ROLES OF YESTERYEAR

"Women's Roles of Yesteryear" will be the theme of the second annual Century of Fashion Show, 12-5 p.m. Sunday, October 28, at Cobblestone Farm.

The show will include a bride's room, a lingerie room and a work room with lots of additional clothes and "props" not seen last year. It is co-sponsored by WCHS which will furnish many of the items on display.

Tickets will be $1 at the door, 50 cents for children. No advance sale. The Society will share in the proceeds.

HOW TO JOIN SOCIETY

Dues for 1985 are payable now to Karen Murphy, corresponding secretary, 3615 Dexter, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Dues are $8 individual, $16 a couple. Seniors are $6 individual, $12 a couple, and students, $2. Annual sustaining membership is $50. Anyone may join by sending his/her name, address, phone number and appropriate dues.

POSTCARD TOUR OF ANN ARBOR SET OCTOBER 14, LED BY WYSTAN STEVENS

President Wystan Stevens, local post card collector and entrepreneur, will take the WCHS audience on a post card tour of Ann Arbor, 1900-1920, at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 14, in the Zonta Room, Ann Arbor "Y", 350 South Fifth Avenue.

He will show slides of a selection of cards from his extensive collection. Refreshments will be served.

SOCIETY TO VISIT OLD-TIME GENERAL 'STORE' SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

President Wystan Stevens has lined up an "unusual treat" for the November meeting.

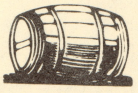
At 4033 Morgan Road in a room of the Michigan Trenching Service, Inc., building, owner Bob Lyons has created an old-time general store.

Unlike "stores" in most museums his is realistically stocked with not just one example of an item but perhaps a dozen boxes each as a real operating store would have, Stevens says.

The Society is invited to browse the store at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, November 4. Wine and cheese will be served. No regular meeting is planned.

To get there take Carpenter Road south to Morgan Road, the first road past I-94, and turn left a short way.

Please note date. Because the meetings are only three weeks apart there will not be a separate November newsletter.



NEWS GETS BETTER

The final official total of income from the July Art Fair parking project at Great Lakes Federal Savings was $938.65, $52 better than the preliminary figure in the last newsletter.

EARLY U-M STUDENT NURSES' DAYS LONG ON PATIENT CARE, SHORT ON EDUCATION

Education was not the primary goal of early United States nursing schools according to Professor Linda Strodtman of the University of Michigan School of Nursing who spoke on nursing history at the September WCHS meeting.

"Most early schools were established by hospitals, principally to provide student nurses as staff for caring for patients with education of the nurse taking a secondary role. The U-M was no different," she said.

Professor Strodtman is a founder and first president of the Nursing History Society of the University of Michigan organized in 1983 in addition to her other professional roles.

A graduate of the Hurley Hospital School of Nursing in Flint with a bachelor of science degree from Michigan State University and master's in surgical nursing from U-M, she is assistant professor of nursing and a clinical nurse specialist in U-M hopsitals nursing services. She is also beginning doctoral studies at Wayne State this fall.

Her own career exemplifies how far nursing education has come from 1891 when the U-M enrolled its first six students.

The Nursing History Society is actively gathering information, pictures, period caps, uniforms and such in preparation for the centennial in 1991.

Professor Strodtman based her WCHS talk on the master's thesis of Jo Eleanor Elliott at the University of Chicago, June 1953, "A History of the University of Michigan School of Nursing."

In 1891, a new hospital had opened on Catherine Street and on November 18 that year the Board of Regents authorized the medical faculty to establish a training school for nurses in connection with it.

"The number of pupils was to be limited to eight and the compensation for each not to exceed fifty dollars per year."

"On December 7, 1891 six students were admitted under the direction of Mrs. Jane Pettigrew. Mrs. Pettigrew was a trained nurse pursuing medical studies at the U-M.

Michigan Historical Collections, Bentley Library University of Michigan

MEN'S SURGICAL WARD, UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, 1913

"The admission requirements were that the students be between twenty and thirty years of age, of sound health and with the physical and mental capacities for the duties of nurse. The program was two years in length with one month's probation period.

"Experience was provided in the care of patients on the medical, surgical and obstetrical services — the only services available in the hospital until after 1893, the year the first class graduated."

Miss Anna R. Harrison, a graduate of the first class and later superintendent of the Training School, wrote of her life as a student nurse in the *Alumnae Journal,* 1941:

"It was with fear and dread that we endeavored to perform the duties which were necessarily heaped upon us, and when three weeks slipped by, and we were installed in the care of 'abdonimal cases' which the motherly practical nurses had had charge of, it was hardly more than we could expect to be called 'young things who did not know anything about nursing.'

"Right at the first we could not have the instruction we really needed for lack of time as there were too many patients for the number of nurses to care for.

"It was a great surprise to be told by the Superintendent of Nurses before the month of probation had passed, to 'please appear in uniform the next day and be ready to assist in the operating room,' with the added injunction, 'do not disgrace yourselves by fainting.'

"The splendid lectures given the nurses by the professors of the medical department of the University, even though they came usually in the evening after a long day's work, were thankfully received, for we felt that every word of instruction was necessary."

The Superintendent of Nurses "instilled it into our minds that we were seldom doing anything just right. . .so our opinion of our capabilities in the nursing world was far from exalted."

"Our powers of endurance must have been stronger at that time than they are now, for we have memories of a rushing morning in a ward, with a long afternoon in the clinic room and a 'special case' in the evening, and that would mean perhaps a three days vigil or it would be care of a ward full of

patients.

"Sometimes there would be over 30 in the women's ward, five in the small ward. . .and six in the private rooms for one poor night nurse to look after.

"Carrying her small candle, the night nurse made her rounds through the wards every half hour, and by morning she would be ready for her 'downy couch.'

"We were always sorry though for any ill report to the superintendent of Nurses or the Superintendent of the Hopsital, and there were some tear-stained faces during those first months.

"Just to prove how hard we were to manage in the Training School at that time, we had three superintendents of nurses during our two years course, and each one in turn thought we had been given the wrong kind of training.

"One other nurse joined our class after a few months, and credit was given her for work in another school, so we numbered seven in all of the senior nurses, and then we had about four juniors so we had some responsibility in being head nurses and telling the younger nurses all we knew.

"After our months of what we thought real work, we were given our diplomas publicly in the Chapel of University Hall, and there we listened to talks by President Angell, Regent Barbour and Dr. Vaughan. Mrs. Angell presented us with our certificates.

After that, Miss Harrison wrote there was a reception at President Angell's home and the graduates were given so many flowers the nursing superintendent told them to share them with the junior nurses.

"In 1897 there were 16 students in the school—the growth reflected the need for students in the hospital nursing service, "Professor Strodtman said.

"In 1899 the first graduate nurses were employed, one for the clinic and two to serve as head nurses in the wards, followed in 1901 by the appointment of a graduate as night supervisor.

In 1902 the program was extended to three years. In 1912 the U-M Training School, previously under the Medical School, was reorganized under University Hospital. In 1915 the first full-time instructor was appointed and 130 students were enrolled. A four-year high school diploma was required for admission.

In 1919 the first degree program for nurses started, a five-year combined course in letters and nursing. In 1926, nursing students were required to meet admission requirements of the College of Literature, Science and the Arts.

The move into the present University Hospital (soon to be replaced) was made in August 1925 and the general duty nursing staff rapidly increased from ten to 75 on opening, to 200 in 1930 and 300 in 1933.

Miss Shirley C. Titus was director of nursing from 1925-30, followed by Miss Marian Durrell, 1930-40. With their coming "not only was there improvement in the actual preparation of the students but also increased emphasis on the educational aspects of the program.

To more nearly reflect that emphasis the name of the school was changed to University Hospital School of Nursing in 1928.

U-M Regents created the faculty of the school in 1941 with the director given the title of professor of nursing. There was one assistant professor and 12 instructors. Sixty-three diplomas were granted in 1942 and 123 in 1945, the year the first B.S.N. was awarded.

In 1952 the School of Nursing was established as one of the autonomous schools in the University. Rhoda Reddig Russell was appointed the first dean in 1955.

The School of Nursing Building opened in 1958. In 1960 there were 55 faculty, 655 enrolled and 159 B.S.N. graduates, the largest number ever graduated from a single nursing school.

Masters programs in psychiatric nursing and medical-surgical nursing were added in 1961 and 1962, respectively, and the doctoral program in 1975. The school has approximately 7,000 alumni.

"Elliott's review of student records of the period 1900-1915 showed large numbers of days lost from work because of illness.

"Diseases and conditions plaguing the student nurses varied from the common cold to tuberculosis of the throat. In 1914 one student nurse died from erysipelas.

Nursing students were disciplined by prolonging their training for everything from burnig patients with hot water bottles or carbolic acid to having an untidy bedroom.

One student was admitted September 3, 1901, and expelled September 9, 1901, for being "too attentive to male patients."

From 1896 to 1922 when the U-M School of Homeopathic Medicine operated, the U-M actually had two nursing schools. The Homeopathic Training School enrolled 16 students in its first class. In 1922 when the second medical school closed, the nursing school was merged with the existing one.

Before 1891 patients were cared for by relatives, medical students or untrained nurses in homes near the campus. For about 20 years after the U-M Medical School was organized there was no hospital.

In 1869 when the first U-M hospital was authorized it was the first owned and controlled by a university in connection with its own medical school.

In 1869 there was a janitor or steward in charge with his wife serving as matron of the hospital. The postion of house physician was created in 1874. In 1877 salaries were requested for two nurses (one male, one female), one steward and one house surgeon.

"A contract with a Mrs. MacManus was agreed upon--she was to be the matron to take care of the hospital, furnish and cook the food, do all the work usually required of a matron, collect the board bills of the patients, do the laundry and board 'such nurses as necessary.'

"In 1887 for the first time, doctors were appointed ward master and ward mistress (a woman doctor). One female doctor was appointed as a nurse. Similar appointments and titles appear until 1891."

Florence Nightingale's work in England to train nurses preceded that in the U.S. The first school on the Nightingale plan opened in London in 1860.

Linda Richards became America's first professionally trained nurse in 1873 upon completion of a 12-month course at the New England Training School.

That same year the first Nightingale plan nursing schools were founded at Bellevue in New York, the Connecticut Training School in New Haven and the Boston Training School (later Massacusetts General Hospital Training School).

"Under the Nightingale plan the school of nursing was to be an autonomous unit for education with the hospital used for practical experience in patient care.

"The plan as adopted in the U.S. had as its primary objective improved care of the patient in the hospital with the education of the nurse taking a secondary role.

"This premise of service first, education second has proved to be a major, if not the prime stumbling block in attempts to provide education of professional nurses."

SWAINSON RE-ELECTED

Former Governor John Swainson has been re-elected president of Manchester Historical Society. Ann Fowler is first vice-president and program chairman; Howard Parr, second vice-president; Hazel Walker, treasurer; and Loring Ebersole, secretary.

Thanks to donations from the annual chicken broil, the blacksmith shop mortgage is now paid up.

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HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Chelsea Historical Society: 7:30 p.m. second Monday. October meeting to be at home of Harold Jones, 701 Glazier, Cavanaugh Lake. Jones home was once occupied by noted Chelsea-ite Frank Glazier. For place and date of November meeting call 475-8971.

Dexter Historical Society: 7:30 p.m. first Thursday at museum, 3443 Inverness.

Annual Christmas bazaar, 9a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, December 1, at museum. Museum open by appointment through winter. Call 426-2519.

Manchester Historical Society: 8 p.m. third Monday at Schneider Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main Street. The October 15 program will be on how local roads and streets were named.

The 1985 Manchester Calendar features 12 local scenes by Ann Arbor artist Dorothea Stockbridge. It may be ordered from Loring Ebersole, 19825 Sharon Valley Road, Manchester 48158, for $3 plus 75 cents postage.

Milan Historical Society: Annual harvest dinner potluck, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 17, at fire barn. Regular meetings 7:30 p.m. third Wednesday at Hack House, 775 County Street.

Webster Historical Society: 7:45 p.m. first Monday in homes. For location call President Jim Parker, 426-4839.

Ypsilanti Historical Society: Jerry Roe of the Michigan Historical Commission will speak at the annual dinner at 5 p.m. Sunday, November 4, at the Masonic Temple, 76 North Huron Street. It is open to the public. Tickets at $5 each available from members or at museum, 220 North Huron, 9 a.m.-noon Monday-Friday or call 482-4990. The museum will feature an exhibit of political memorabilia through the November election. Hours are 2-4 p.m. Friday-Sunday.

HOW TO DO FAMILY HISTORY IS TOPIC

L.J. McGrady of Toledo, author of *How to Publish Your Genealogy,* will speak at the 1:30 p.m., October 28 meeting of the Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County in Hale Auditorium at the U-M School of Business, Tappan and Hill. His topic is "How To Do Your Family History."

The next meeting will be December 2 with a sharing of family traditions. The society library has been moved to the Institute of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, at Tappan and Hill and is open to all family researchers.

THANKS, WYSTAN

President Wystan Stevens donated a $50 honorarium he earned for a program he did last summer for the Saline Lions Club to the Society.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING
2:30 P.M. SUNDAY
October 14, 1984
ANN ARBOR "Y"
350 South Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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